

**PERSON
CENTERED
PLANNING**

The adult services specialist views each client as an individual with specific and unique circumstances, and will approach case planning holistically, from a person-centered, strength-based perspective.

Person-centered, strength-based case planning focuses on the following:

- Client as **decision-maker** in determining needs and case planning.
- Client **strengths and successes**, rather than problems.
- Client as their **own best resource**.
- Client **empowerment**.
- The adult services specialist's role includes **being an advocate** for the client. **As advocate, the specialist will:**
 - Assist the client to become a self-advocate.
 - Assist the client in securing necessary resources.
 - Inform the client of options and educate him/her on how to make the best possible use of available resources.
 - Promote services for clients in the least restrictive environment. Participate in community forums, town meetings, hearings, etc. for the purpose of information gathering and sharing.
 - Ensure that community programming balances client choice with safety and security.
 - Advocate for protection of the frail, disabled and elderly.
 - Promote employment counseling and training services for developmentally disabled persons to ensure **inclusion** in the range of career opportunities available in the community.

PARTNERSHIPS

Work cooperatively with other agencies to ensure effective coordination of services; see ASM 125, Coordination With Other Services.

**JOINT POLICY
DEVELOPMENT**

The Adult Services Manual (ASM) policy has been developed jointly by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) and the Department of Human Services (DHS)